

MAMMOTH CAVE ORIGINALLY EXPLORED BY A NEGRO SLAVE

Little Has Ever Been Said of Original Explorer and First Guide, Stephen Bishop.

GLASGOW, Ky., Nov. 11.—Of the thousand stories and newspaper articles written about Mammoth Cave nothing, aside from a bare mention, has even been made of the original explorer, and first guide, Stephen Bishop. Some have heard that at some remote time a Bishop was the first explorer, but that is about all.

Stephen Bishop was born a slave in 1822. He was owned by the Bishops, who at one time owned a part of the cave land. When about fifteen years of age he became interested in the cave, which at that time had only been explored a short distance, which at first amused the owners, they thinking that the boy was drawing on his imagination for many of the scenes described.

The boy's entire being seemed wrapped up in his underground work, and so great was his interest in the cave that it was difficult to get him interested ever for a short time in other pursuits.

Matters went this way for a time, until Stephen discovered Echo river, and his description of that wonderful underground stream began to interest the outside world.

He was endowed with much intelligence, though, like many slaves, was uneducated. However, at the time of his death he had picked up, by coming in contact with the outside world, an education in language that was surprising. It was said of him that he could converse for hours, never using a word out of place or making an error. Of this he was exceedingly proud, and many times he remarked that what he had learned had amply repaid his efforts, to say nothing of a salary and tips.

He was exceedingly high minded for a man of his birth, and was trusted in the fullest sense of the word by his owner. During his life he had the pleasure of guiding Bayard Taylor, the celebrated writer; Jennie Lind, the noted singer, and Ole Bull, the Norwegian musician, through the cave, besides many other noted persons in this and foreign countries.

Stephen Bishop died June 25, 1859, and was buried just in front of the cave he loved so well, and which had been almost his home for twenty years.

After the cave passed into other hands it was decided that a grave in front of the entrance was greswome, and the body was accordingly taken up and buried in a rustic woodland above the cave. A monument was erected to his memory, which reads:

"STEPHEN BISHOP,
FIRST GUIDE AND EXPLORER
OF THE
MAMMOTH CAVE.
DIED JUNE 15, 1859,
IN HIS 37TH YEAR."

Stephen Bishop was the grand uncle of Ed. Bishop, colored, one of the present guides of the cave, and it is claimed that there is a striking resemblance between the two.

LAWSUIT FOR CROWN MAY BE TRIED SOON

Prize is the Throne of the Independent Grand Duchy of Luxemburg.

A fight for a European throne is soon to be decided. Time was when such a struggle would have been decided on the field of battle. The disputants of today will betake themselves to the law courts, says a London cable to the New York Sun.

The prize is the throne of the independent Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. The disputants are the present occupant of the throne, the Grand Duke William Alexander, and his six beautiful daughters on the one side and his cousin, Count Merenberg on the other.

When it was seen that the advent of a son to the present Grand Duke was extremely improbable the Luxemburg last year passed a special law making it possible for a daughter to inherit the throne. It is the law that Count Merenberg will endeavor to have set aside. To do so he will have to raise the question of the legitimacy of the issue of a morganatic marriage.

The Count is the son of the late Duke Nicholas of Nassau, uncle of the present Grand Duke, and is the nearest male relative of the Grand Duke. But he is only a morganatic cousin, for a romantic history attaches to the marriage of his father and mother.

Nicholas of Nassau fell in love

with a beautiful Russian actress, Natalie Poushkinne, a married woman. After her divorce he married her in London, raising her to the rank of Countess Merenberg. He married his other wife and the Counts and Countesses of Merenberg might thus rank as legitimate children.

The history of Europe teems with morganatic marriages, especially in Austria. As a rule the royal person who contracts one of these marriages abjures all rights of succession for his or her children. The Grand Duke Franz Ferdinand, heir to Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria-Hungary, is morganatically married and has renounced the right of succession for his son, but it is fully expected that when he comes to the throne he will persuade the Austrian and Hungarian Parliaments to recognize his son as legitimate, with full rights of succession to the crown.

In the case of Count Merenberg there seems to have been no formal renunciation of these rights, and his attempt to establish them in the law courts should have considerable interest for the strong-willed heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary.

Luxemburg is a tiny neutral State which was created an independent Grand Duchy by the treaty of London of 1867. Sandwiched between France, Belgium and Germany, it measures fifty miles by thirty-two. It has its own Parliament and other machinery of Government, with a most placid recent history.

The capital is built on a rock rising precipitously on three sides to a height of 200 feet. In olden days the town was one of the most formidable fortresses of Europe. One great military authority placed it only second in point of natural vantage to Gibraltar, and it was besieged and starved out in the wars of France, Germany and the Netherlands. After the treaty of London it was found a matter of extreme difficulty to dismantle and destroy the fortifications so as to prevent them from being an object of covetousness to the surrounding nations.

Luxemburg has its own stamps and coinage, but the latter only runs to a half penny and a penny, an indication of the lowly aspirations of its people. They speak a dialect which might be roughly described as Low Dutch with a provincial French accent. The official language is French, and as far as the manners and customs of the well-to-do classes go the country might be long to French. But small and humble as it is this little agricultural State, it is an independent Grand Duchy, and to reign over it is to be a somebody, so the fight in the courts between the reigning Duke and his cousin will probably be keen.

WANT BRYAN AS SENATOR FROM OLD KENTUCKY.

DANVILLE, Ky., Nov. 11.—The Advocate says:

"Attorney William Roberts and Circuit Clerk, R. G. Price have inaugurated a movement looking to the location of W. J. Bryan in Danville. The movement will be given State-wide publicity and an effort will be made to effect such a strong organization and offer the peerless leader such a pressing invitation that he will not hesitate to come. After he is here, the purpose is to run him for United States Senator so that he can wield his mighty influence in the halls of national legislation. Every right-thinking person should join heartily in the movement."

POPULAR ENGLISH WOMEN.

Who are the six most popular women in England, excluding Queen Alexandra, who, of course, is hors concours? The question is answered by readers, who place Florence Nightingale at the head of the list. Princess Christian, whose personal charm and boundless energy in the cause of philanthropy are well known, comes next; the remaining four in their order being the princess of Wales, Miss Ellen Terry, the countess of Warwick and Mme. Patti, who has never been able really to change the name she made her own, though she has made three attempts.—London Woman.

A MORE DIFFICULT FEAT.

"Joshua was a wonderful man to be able to make the sun stand still." "If he'd made a baby sit still long enough to be photographed he'd have been wonderful, all right."—Houston Post.

Soil Regeneration in Crop Rotation.



To simplify the planning of rotations, field crops are divided into three general classes according to their effect on the physical condition and available plant food of the soil. These three classes of crops are grain crops, grass crops and cultivated crops.

Under grain crops are placed such crops as wheat, barley, oats, millet, etc. These crops grow but one season, are sown usually in the spring, and are harvested without intermediate cultivation. They do not develop heavy root systems, consequently leave but little crop residue to keep up the supply of humus in the soil. During the years when grains are grown, weeds increase and the productivity of the soil decreases.

Grass crops include such crops as clover (though not a true grass) timothy, bromus, etc. These crops grow two or more years from one seeding, consequently develop quite extensive root systems. When plowed up, the roots add materially to the supply of vegetable matter in the soil and in decaying leave open spaces between the soil particles which allow the entrance of air. These crops may be termed soil building crops.

The cultivated crops are those planted so as to allow intertillage during their growth. In this class are found corn, potatoes, and root crops such as mangels and sugar beets. The cultivation of these crops destroys weeds, loosens the surface of the soil, conserves moisture by the formation of a surface mulch and allows the entrance of air, thus making conditions favorable for the decomposition of vegetable matter.

It may be seen that a far better condition of soil is maintained by a good rotation of crops than by continuous cropping to corn or grain. The grass crops maintain the supply of humus and the cultivated crops retain moisture, destroy weeds and help to aerate the soil.

Instead of being a complex matter difficult to understand and impractical to follow, a systematic rotation of crops is one of the simplest and most easily carried out of any of the suggested improvements in methods of farming.

Crop rotation may be defined as a systematic succession of the three general classes of farm crops, namely, grain crops, grass crops and cultivated crops, in such a way as to provide large yields of grain, pasturage and forage needed on the farm at the least expense of labor and fertility.

Rotation systems must be adapted to each farm or class of farms and to the particular condition of each farm. With a knowledge of what is desired to accomplish by rotation, namely an improvement in the condition of the soil and a corresponding increase in the net income per acre, it is easily possible, knowing the character of the farm, the climate, the line of farming desired and the tastes of the farmer, to plan a systematic rotation for that farm which will give the desired results. The essentials of a good rotation are that the net yields in money value per acre be maintained or increased, that vegetable matter be kept in the soil, and that the land be kept in good physical condition and reasonably free from weeds. Grass crops must be grown or barnyard manure applied, or both, to keep up the supply of vegetable matter. A cultivated crop occasionally and good tillage are necessary to kill out the weeds and help put the soil in good tilth. These things are naturally brought about by alternating the three classes of crops—that is, one or more grass crops should appear on each field every four or eight years. Corn or other cultivated crops and manure should appear one or more years in the same period, and the remainder of the time grain may be grown.

This treatment cannot fail to keep the soil in much better condition than can be done by growing any one crop

continuously, and it may be brought about by a very little planning, and without very seriously changing the acreage devoted to each crop. Most farms in the middle west have from one-eighth to one-half their tillable area in corn, and from one-eighth to one-half in grass each year. All the change that is necessary is to arrange these crops according to some regular system of rotation instead of growing each on the same field year after year.

A few people hesitate to begin the rotation of crops because they have the idea that it necessitates dividing the farm into small fields. It is true that a certain number of fields are necessary to carry out a rotation. It is also true that on the average farm a good rotation will provide fewer fields and better shaped fields than are used at present under the less definite systems of cropping.

Experiments at the Minnesota Agricultural college farm have established the following facts regarding crop rotation:

There is choice even among good rotation schemes. In these experiments all those cropping systems gave large net profits in which corn, small grains, timothy and clover sod laid for one to four years, were arranged in a four to seven-year rotation, with light manuring once during the course.

The standard five-year rotation is: First year, corn, following the application of eight tons of manure per acre; second year, wheat; third and fourth years, meadow; fifth year, oats. This rotation has given an average gross income per year, based on average farm prices, of \$14.08. The cost of production, including \$3.50 land rental, is \$9.05, leaving a net annual income of \$5.03 per acre.

Several other rotation schemes were even more profitable than the one used for a standard; while crops grown continuously and crops not properly arranged in the rotation were less profitable or even resulted in a loss.

Many farmers would profit were they to practice systems of cropping which include the alternation of grain crops, grass crops as clover and timothy sown together, and cultivated crops arranged in any rotation scheme best suited to their conditions.

Any systems of cropping that have provided for the maintenance of a supply of vegetable matter in the soil, either by manuring or by growing pasture or meadow crops, have given profitable returns.

The plots which have grown cultivated crops, such as corn, potatoes and mangels, continuously without manure, have given poorer returns than have the plots which have grown grain continuously without manure. This is believed to be due to the fact that the intertillage given these crops has caused a more rapid depletion of vegetable matter than has taken place in the continuous grain fields.

The four-year rotation: First year, millet; second year, barley; third year, corn; fourth year, oats, gave no better returns than did the plot on which wheat was grown continuously. All of the crops in this rotation are considered exhaustive crops, as they all decrease rather than increase the supply of vegetable matter in the soil.

The practice of sowing grass seed with the grain on corn land that is disced in the spring in place of fall plowing, has resulted in securing a grass stand in nearly every instance. It has proved to be the surest method of obtaining a grass stand of any tried at the Minnesota university farm.

ANDREW BOSS, Agriculturist.

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5—Why suffer other inconveniences when you can have everything for the comfort and health of your family right in the house?

6—Is it not true that the answer is not "lack of money," but lack of economy and enterprise and indifference to getting the most out of life?

C. F. ATTERSALL, Superintendent

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Slang Terms for Money.
"Spondulix" is interesting. The word was first applied to shell money used on the west coast of Africa, and it got its name from the town whence it came, Spondula. "Sprats" is English. "Swag" seems to originate in the Norwegian svaga, to sway; from it came to mean to weigh heavily; therefore, a pack or baggage, then the booty of highway robbery.

Love Is Hysteria?
A South Norwalk, Conn., dominie is quoted as declaring that "love is hysteria." Of course, it is, but why does the clergyman object to it on that account? It is not only hysteria, but it is a high fever, a cold chill, nervous prostration and acute neuralgia, alternately. There's what makes it interesting, and in any event, desirable.—New York Morning Telegraph.